

UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit: N/Y/K
Re: Application of: Ronald Brown MILLER, et al.
Serial No.: N/Y/K
Filed: Herewith
For: **CONTROLLED RELEASE TRAMADOL
FORMULATION**

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 6, 2001

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification

Page 1, Title of Invention, please **insert** the term "Tramadol" between the words Release and Formulation.

After the title of the invention, please **insert** the following paragraph:

- - This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/677,798, filed July 10, 1996; which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/241,129, filed May 10, 1994 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,591,452).- -

Please **insert** the following language preceding Example 1 on page 15:

- - BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention is further illustrated with the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a graphical depiction of the serum levels of tramadol following administration of one tablet according to Example 2 in 12 healthy volunteers; and

Fig. 2 is a graphical depiction of the plasma profile resulting from single dose administration of the tablet of Example 8 in comparison to the administration of a commercial preparation of tramadol drops 100mg in a trial involving five healthy male volunteers.- -

In the Claims:

Please **delete** claims 21-41 without prejudice, in order to decrease the cost of the filing fee.

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 21-41 have been deleted without prejudice.

Conclusion:

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by virtue of these amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: 

Robert J. Paradiso
Reg. No.. 41,240

Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC
485 Seventh Avenue, 14th Floor
New York, New York 10018
(212) 736-1940